

Wharfedale above Bolton Woods.

Second Paper.

Why is it that human curiosity will always investigate the beginnings of a river, or of a man's life, caring not at all in either case. We are filled with a restless desire to trace the sources of the Wharfe. We must find out for ourselves the headwaters of the bonny river, learn the secret of its hasty current, know the whereabouts of every wandering beck which swells it, every ridge it leaps over, every lovely elbow in the glen into which its upper valley narrows. Leaving Barden Tower, we take our course Up-Edale. The valley is beautiful as ever - a broad green bottom, spotted with cattle & with scattered clumps of trees, through which the river winds, leaving the foot of the wooded cliffs which shut in the dale, now on this side, now on that; swelling slopes, richly wooded here, grassy ^{here in the picture} ~~grown~~, there; & behind all, the bare brows of the fells.

A curious Six Feet attracts us; the church which it belongs bears evident traces of Norman architecture: this is Burnsall Church well known to the Archaeologist as containing singular treasure of antiquity. Here an Saxon cross carved with quaint devices, where is an early Norman font with large moulding, its base covered with rude sculpture of fishes triumphing over beasts emblematic of the triumph of Christianity over paganism; & above all, is a most interesting specimen of early sculpture in alabaster, Saxon or very early Norman. It is a small medallion measuring about a foot each way, cut in high relief.

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which represents the Adoration of the Kings; the Holy Family occupy the centre of the piece, at the feet of the infant Saviour lies the three Kings, with their gifts, while angels hover over the group; & below, is an altar with its supply of provender. Probably there is no more remarkable specimen of early sculpture extant than this, which was found turned under the floor of the Chantry Chapel by the workmen engaged in the restoration of the Church, in 1858. A tablet built into the historical records shows:-

"This Church was Repaired And Bllified at Thonlie Coste & Charges of sir willm craven knight & alderm of the cite of London & Late Lord Mayor of the same Anno dom. 1612"

And a curious career was that of this same Courtly knight. Born in the neighbouring village of Appleton Wick, the son of a Craven peasant, his parents sent him by the Carrier's cart to London to seek his fortune: he found it: beginning as a mercer's errand boy, he became, as we have seen, an alderman, & then Lord Mayor of London town. After his career is not singular, but the exultation of the Craven blood was to effect something more: he became the founder of that family in which is now held the Earldom of Craven. His eldest son William was known as one of the most gallant & courtly gentlemen & distinguished soldiers of his time: he was one of those Englishmen who served the King of Spain out of devotion to the beautiful Queen, the Sister of Charles. He ~~captured~~ the Girl, & it is generally believed that when this prisoner returned to England a widow, the gallant Baron of Southampton (a title conferred in the 7th of Charles I.)

where each appears under a military chief. ^{214/p3 cmc34} There
is no notice of the rape in any Anglo Saxon
law, nor had it any Anglo Saxon tribunal. ^{thus} For
a County, the whole of which was "barbarously ravaged,"
which, more than the rest of England, he treated as
conquered territory, we see the design of the
Conqueror carried out to the full. "The Normans
were a hard people; whenever they conquered, & did
conquer outright, they went to work like plunderers,
dividing the country by measurement - by the
rope as it was termed - measuring out the
land amongst themselves, a process which
singularly marks the original violence of their
character, for in such allotments they
neglected all the natural relations which might
previously exist amongst the nations whom
they conquered." ~~Sir J. Palgrave~~ Now this is
the process they carried into effect in Sussex. ^{Sir J. Palgrave}

We may as well make by the low road, past
endless corn fields, for nothing - a pleasant place

The first picture on the tapestry shews "Harold & his knights riding towards Bosham", one of his principal manors on the south coast, where his lands extended from Chichester to Havant: his ^{own} ~~legions~~ probably stood where the ~~present~~ manor now is - on a site enclosed by an ancient moat. A story like that which accounts for the union of Bath & Wells, & doubtless as credible, is told of Harold's father, the famous earl Godwin: "Da milii basium" he is made to ask of the Archbishop Agilnoth, & thereupon, to take as a gift, not basium, but Bosham. The high, circular Chancel arch, the tower of the old church claim to be Saxon; & the tower makes good its claim by long & short work above a triangular-headed window, by several round-headed windows in the massive walls, & by the square-edged string-course which divide the masonry into two stages. In a recess in the north wall is a short figure, said to be that of a daughter of Canute, who visited earl Godwin here, & died. A college for a dean & five secular prebendaries was founded at Bosham, ^{abt. 1120}, by Warlewast, Bishop of Exeter; & at Appledram, ~~a neighbouring~~ the neighbouring village of Appledram has one of the prebendal churches originally attached to the college, which remains almost unaltered since it was built in the thirteenth